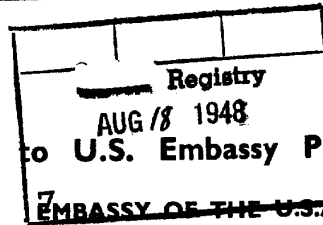


# DAILY REVIEW OF THE ARABIC PRESS



State Dept. review completed

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MORNING PAPERS.

WEDNESDAY August 11th, 1948.

Palostine.

Jewish invitation to the Arabs rejected.

While Al Misri, Al Ahram, Al Ikhwan, and Al Kutla say that the Arab governments will presently send a note to Count Bernadotte rejecting the Israeli invitation for direct negotiations, Al Siyassa and Al Assas (both government organs) report that the reply was actually sent yesterday August 10th to Bernadotte. Al Siyassa adds that in their reply, the Arab countries said that they did not know who Mr Shortock was, that they did not recognize the state of Israel, and that the invitation must therefore be considered non-existent.

Other news pertaining to the  
Palestinian situation.

Al Misri, the important Wafdist daily, publishes a message from its Beirut correspondent in which he says that Lebanese Prime Minister Riad Al Solh Bey is drafting a memorandum to the Arab countries concerning his recent meeting with King Abdullah of Transjordan.

The same daily says that Azzam Pasha made a statement to the press in which he said that he had a talk with Nokrashi Pasha concerning certain requests made by the Palestinian landowners in the Southern part of Palestine who asked that facilities might be afforded to them to export oranges. Southern Palestine, said Azzam Pasha, had LE 1,500,000 worth of oranges to export. The Pasha added that he had spoken to the P.M. about the Arab refugees in the Egyptian-controlled part of Palestine whose number was estimated to be 150,000.

Commenting on the refugee situation in Transjordan, Azzam Pasha said that the number of refugees in Transjordan was not bigger than the number of refugees in other Arab states. Transjordan was a small country and it therefore felt the weight more so than other Arab states, explained Azzam Pasha who concluded his statement by saying that the Arab League Political Committee would certainly meet sometime in September before the meeting of the United Nations General Assembly.

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Egypt may withdraw from the coming session of the United Nations, says Al Misri.

Al Misri reports that it has ascertained from an official source at the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs that Egypt and the rest of the Arab countries intended to withdraw from the coming session of the United Nations General Assembly if the Assembly failed to give justice to the Arabs. "This international demonstration will shake the United Nations to the core", adds Al Misri.

Al Misri also says that Egypt's delegation to the U.N. Assembly will be headed by Khashaba Pasha.

Al Misri's proprietor criticizes President Truman.

Al Misri reports that Senator Mahmud Abul Fath who is visiting the U.S.A. at present has made statements to the New York Times, New York Post, World Telegram, and New York Sun in which he severely criticized President Truman's Palestine policy.

Israel blackmails the U.S.A., says Al Misri.

Al Misri's Damascus correspondent writes: "A member of the American Consular mission in Jerusalem who arrived in Damascus to report to the American Legation in Syria about the situation in Palestine, told me that Israel was threatening the U.S.A. that unless the latter gave more help to the Jews of Palestine, Israel would conclude a military alliance with Soviet Russia. The same American also told me that the Soviet diplomatic mission in Tel-Aviv is composed of thirty officials, some of whom were recently sent to Haifa to open a Consulate there".

The Arab refugee question.

Al Ahram publishes a story in its front page in which it says that the Jews drove the Arabs of Palestine out of their homes in order to make room for Jewish immigrants. Al Ahram also says that the Jews are trying to persuade the Jewish inhabitants of the Arab countries to immigrate to Palestine. The paper's correspondent in Washington expresses the belief that Britain will exercise the right of veto to prevent Israel from joining the United Nations.

Al Ahram criticizes Bernadotte.

Al Ahram's Amman Correspondent writes an article for his paper in which he accuses Bernadotte of conspiring with the Jews to disarm the Arabs of old Jerusalem in order to enable the Jews of new Jerusalem to occupy the whole of Jerusalem. The Mediator has notified the Arab League that he was leaving Rhodes for Sweden on August 13th. The Arab also received a note from Sir Raphael Colanto of the United Nations saying that the number of Arab refugees at Ramallah

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was 80,000, at Lebanon 50,000, at Transjordan 100,000; and at Syria 80,000. The total number of refugees was 322,000 said Sir Raphael in his note. Al Ahram adds that a high Egyptian source made a statement to it to the effect that although Egypt gave refuge to only 12,000 Palestinian Arabs, she was virtually supporting the entire population of the Egyptian controlled parts of Palestine.

Al Ikhwan Al Muslimoun suggests that Egypt should allow the Arab refugees to live at the military barracks at Rafh which can house 50,000 persons. These barracks are partly located in Palestine and partly in Egyptian territory, and they are fully equipped with electricity, water, and necessary furniture.

Al Assas publishes an editorial headlined: "The Arabs must depend on themselves" in which it says that the Arabs would be foolish to expect justice from international organisations or from the big powers, and they should therefore depend on themselves and cooperate fully.

Al Assas also reports that the Minister of Education has instructed the Egyptian Education Mission in Switzerland to sever all relations with the Egyptian Jewish students in Switzerland who are proved to be engaged in pro-Zionist activities in that country. This means that the Jewish students in question will no longer be entitled to get Swiss francs from the Egyptian mission.

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#### Nationalising the Suez Canal Company.

Al Assas, the official mouthpiece of Nokrashi Pasha, publishes a statement by Under-Secretary of Commerce Abdullah Abaza Bey, in which he says that the Ministry of Commerce has asked the State Council to rule whether or not the Companies bill may be applied in the case of the Suez Canal Company whose board of directors is located outside Egypt. The State Council ruled that the Companies bill may be applied in this case. The Ministry therefore asked the Company to give it all information concerning the number of Egyptians on its board of directors and the number of Egyptian employees and workers employed by the company. The Ministry intends to apply the Company's bill in this instance and nationalise the Suez Canal Company by the year 1950, concluded Abaza Bey.

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#### The recent explosions in Cairo.

Akher Sa'a quotes Under-Secretary of Interior Ammar Bey as saying to its reporter: "The Egyptian government has laid its hand on the source of danger. I can state with emphasis that there will be no more explosions in Cairo similar to those which took place recently".

The same weekly reports that the Egyptian authorities are employing 4000 policemen for the purpose of guarding Jewish establishments in Cairo, at a cost of LE 5000 per day.

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The weekly suggests that this money should be taken from the Jewish sequestered property.

Akher Sa'a also reports that a number of Foreign Representatives in Egypt who are unfavourably disposed towards the Egyptians wanted to submit a protest, collectively, against what they called "Hostile Egyptian movements against the foreigners". The weekly continues: "But the wise ones among the Foreign Representatives refused to take part in this movement. A senior Italian diplomat said that the Italian residents in Egypt received good treatment at the hands of the Egyptians".

Akher Sa'a says that huge quantity of arms and ammunition were seized at a villa of a senior Egyptian (unnamed). Among the things seized were 3000 Italian bombs, 50,000 French landmines, 15 English landmines, and thousands of handgrenades, rifles, machineguns, sub-machineguns, as well as a huge quantity of dynamite.

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A meeting between Sorageldine Pasha  
and Murtada Al Maraghy Bey.

Akher Sa'a reports that a meeting took place between the Secretary General of the Wafd party Fouad Sorageldine Pasha, and Under-Secretary of Interior Maraghy Bey. The weekly says that the Wafdists are encouraging the rumours that the meeting was in connection with the possibility of an early return to power by the Wafd party. These rumours are completely unfounded, concludes the magazine which fails, however, to explain the purpose of the meeting in question.

The return of Sidky Pasha has no  
political significance, says Al Ikhwan.

Al Ikhwan reports that the return of former Prime Minister Ismail Sidky Pasha to Cairo from Europe has no political significance. He will neither be appointed minister in this Cabinet nor be asked to form a new Cabinet, says the daily.

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